
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NEWS RELEASE

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STAFF TECHNICAL CONFERENCE SCHEDULED

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission today announced a May staff technical conference on capacity benefit margin (CBM).

The North American Electric Reliability Council (NERC) has defined CBM as "that amount of transmission transfer capability reserved by load serving entities to ensure access to generation from interconnected systems to meet generation reliability requirements." NERC has explained that utilities employing CBM may reduce their own generating capacity below the level otherwise necessary to meet generation reliability requirements.

However, it appears that utilities have different views on what CBM is and how it is computed.

Variations in the definition of CBM and in how to compute CBM, and also its impact on available transmission capacity (ATC) for open access transmission, have prompted the Commission to hold this conference.

The conference will be held May 20 and 21, beginning at 10 a.m., at the Commission's Washington headquarters.

Requests to speak at the technical conference should be filed with the Commission's Office of the Secretary by April 19. A future notice will list speakers and panels for the conference.